FROM : CHARLES PRENTISS

TESTIMONY Bill12 (2006) January 26, 2006 Charles A. Prentiss

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Bill 12 (2006) allows the Director to increase the initial tax rate by the Consumer

Price Index (CPI) Rill 12 will not be passes and if the much supporter Rill 24 in

Price Index (CPI). Bill 12 will not be necessary if the much superior Bill 81 is adopted since they both increase taxes by the CPI. If you pass both, you will be adding the CPI twice. Bill 81, of course, addresses the "assessments" which are the real problem.

If Bill 81 is adopted with an amendment specifying that the starting base assessments will be last year's, not the new 2005 "bubble" assessments, you will have solved the problem. An increase in assessments based upon the CPI is reasonable.